IN THE SPECIFICATION

After page 31, between the specification and the claims, please insert the enclosed paper copy of the sequence listing.

Please amend the 4th full paragraph at page 6, lines 17-18 as follows:

FIG. 4**[[A]]** is a chart showing the effect of the concentration of a hyaluronate peptide T conjugate on ELISA detection limits.

Please delete the 5th and 6th full paragraphs at page 6, lines 19-23 in their entirety.

Please delete the 1st paragraph at page 7, lines 1-4 in its entirety.

Please amend the 2nd paragraph at page 14, line 5 through page 15, line 7 as follows:

According to a further embodiment, the polypeptide conjugated to the polysaccharide can comprise an antigenic determinant of an antibody whose presence in a sample is associated with a disease (*e.g.*, a virus). For example, the polypeptide can comprise an antigenic determinant of the HIV or SARS virus. According to one embodiment, the polypeptide is an antigenic determinant of the SARS virus. Exemplary polypeptides which can be conjugated to the polysaccharide include polypeptides comprising antigenic determinants of the SARS virus as disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/475,486, filed June 4, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. According to one embodiment, the polypeptide conjugated to the polysaccharide comprises all or part of the following polypeptide sequence:

FERDISNVPFSPDGKPC SEQ ID NO:2

According to further embodiments, the polypeptide conjugated to the polysaccharide can comprise a peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

Peptide #78 PDGKPC; SEQ ID NO:23

Peptide #79	SPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:24
Peptide #80	FSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:25
Peptide #81	PFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:26
Peptide #82	VPFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:27
Peptide #83	NVPFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:28
Peptide #84	SNVPFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:29
Peptide #85	ISNVPFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:30
Peptide #86	DISNVPFSPDGKPC;	SEQ ID NO:31
Peptide #87	RDISNVPFSPDGKPC; and	SEQ ID NO:32
Peptide #88	ERDISNVPFSPDGKPC.	SEQ ID NO:33

Please amend the 1st full paragraph at page 19, lines 9-14 as follows:

FIG. 4[[A]] shows optical density at 405 nm as a function of concentration in ng/ml of peptide T (PT) and a HL-L-PT conjugate. As can be seen from FIG. 4[[A]], the sensitivity of the assay was significantly higher using the Peptide T conjugate than with the non-conjugated peptide T. The difference in sensitivity was particularly pronounced at lower concentrations (i.e., at concentrations of 100 ng/ml or less).

Please amend the 1st full paragraph, page 20, lines 10-16 as follows:

The results ~~are shown in FIG. 4B which is a chart showing optical density at 405 nm as a function of titration of peptide T antiserum against peptide T and an HA-L-Peptide T conjugate. As can be seen from FIG. 4B,~~ indicated that peptide T antibodies can be detected at a dilution of 1:10,000 when using the HA-Peptide T conjugate (*i.e.*, at a concentration of 10 pg/ml coated on an ELISA plate). There was no significant difference detected among all antiserum dilutions when using non HA conjugated peptide T under the same conditions.

Please amend the 1st full paragraph, page 25, lines 4-11 as follows:

All hyloranate peptide conjugates were coated onto a rectangular 96-well plate nitrocellulose membrane, ~~such as that illustrated by rows A-H and columns 1-12 of FIGS. 5A-5D~~ using a 96-well Minifold Dot Blot Plate. ~~The dot in the lower right-hand corner, dot 12H in each of FIGS. 5A-5D was human~~ Human IgG was used as a positive control. The membrane was allowed air dry and then blocked with 10 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.5)/150 mM NaCl (PBS) containing 5 % nonfat dry milk for one hour at room temperature. The membrane was washed twice for 15 minutes each with PBS and then allowed air dry.

Please amend the 1st full paragraph, page 26, line 28 through page 27, line 10 as follows:

~~FIGS. 6A and 6B are images of membrane~~ Membrane strips ~~each of which~~ were coated with different mixtures of HA conjugated SARS polypeptides. ~~There are 6~~ Six (6) dots ~~plus~~ and a positive control were used on each strip. Each mixture of conjugates was duplicated once (*i.e.*, two dots for each mixture of conjugates). The three groups of SARS antigenic HA-peptide conjugate mixtures are designated X_1, X_2 and X_3 ~~with the numbering from top to bottom (*i.e.*, X_1 being the uppermost pair of spots and X_3 being the pair of spots immediately above the control)~~ The conjugates were synthesized based on the methods disclosed herein. Mixture X_1 is a mixture of 14 HA-peptide conjugates containing 14 different polypeptides having the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21. Mixture X_2 is a mixture of 10 HA-peptides conjugates containing 10 different polypeptides having the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 15, 18, 19, 21. Mixture X_3 is a mixture of 10 HA-peptide conjugates containing 10 different polypeptides having the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 13, 15, 17, 18 and 21.

Please amend the 1st full paragraph, page 27, line 11-15 as follows:

These strips were tested against various dilutions of normal serum ~~(FIG. 6A)~~ or SARS patient serum ~~(FIG. 6B)~~. The serum dilutions employed were 1:400, 1:800, 1:1600 and 1:3200. ~~As can be seen from FIG. 6B, the~~ The tests conducted on the SARS patient serum were positive at all dilutions tested and for all conjugate mixtures.